

Biographical Fiction

Eight Girls Taking Pictures : a novel

by Whitney Otto

A tale inspired by the lives of famous twentieth-century female photographers traces the progression of feminism and photography in various world regions as each woman explores private and public goals while balancing the demands of family and creativity.

Vanessa and her Sister

by Priya Parmar

Told uniquely as part diary, part epistolary novel, Parmar focuses on the relationship of Vanessa (later Bell) and Virginia (later Woolf) Stephens, one filled with unspoken jealousy and a fierceness of love that will ultimately destroy their kinship.

The Vanishing Woman : based on a true story

By Doug Peterson

Based on the true story of Ellen Craft, a light-skinned slave who escaped from Georgia in 1848 by posing as an ailing white man while her husband pretended to be her slave, Ellen and William Craft traveled over one thousand miles to freedom.

Epitaph : a novel of the O.K. corral

by Mary Doria Russell

A sequel to Doc is based on the true events of the gunfight at the O.K. Corral and Wyatt Earp's survival against a backdrop of volatile politics in 1881 America.

All the Stars in the Heavens

by Adriana Trigiani

Reimagines the career of actress Loretta Young, tracing the decades she shared

with her assistant Alda, a former nun, as they face successes, scandals, and obstacles that threatened their bond.

Hadassah : one night with the King

by Tommy Tenney

A Jewish woman reads a letter from Esther, which has been passed down from generations before her, and is drawn into the story of a simple peasant girl who became Esther, Queen of Persia.

Georgia : a novel of Georgia

O'Keeffe by Dawn Tripp

A tale inspired by the romance between master painter Georgia O'Keeffe and photographer Alfred Stieglitz describes how a young O'Keeffe becomes the married photographer's mistress and muse as her star rises in the art world in spite of criticism about her role as the subject of Stieglitz's infamous nudes.

Burr : a novel

by Gore Vidal

Aaron Burr tells his biographer details of his life, including his duel with Alexander Hamilton and his two marriages.

Girl in Hyacinth Blue

by Susan Vreeland

The journey Vreeland recounts begins in present-day Pennsylvania, where a schoolteacher claims he owns an authentic Vermeer, a legacy from his late father, who acquired it under heinous circumstances: a Nazi officer, the father had looted it from the home of Dutch Jews. Vreeland traces the treasured painting from owner to owner. She demonstrates the enduring power of art in the face of natural disaster, political upheaval, and personal turmoil.



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Biographical fiction is **fiction** which takes a historical individual and recreates elements of their life in turn telling a **fictional** narrative. Find these titles on the adult fiction shelves under the author's last name.

A Touch of Stardust

by Kate Alcott

Julie is a wide-eyed Indiana girl who, through a series of lucky breaks, advances from studio go-fer and assistant to Carole Lombard to contract writer at MGM.

The Dream Lover

by Elizabeth Berg

George Sand, a woman truly ahead of her time, leaves her estranged husband and children to embark on a life of art in bohemian Paris. A talented writer who finds monetary and critical success, Sand adopts a man's name, often dresses as a gentleman and smokes cigars. Through her writing, politics, sexual complexities and views on feminism, Sand is always seeking love.

Miss Fuller

by April Bernard

When feminist, journalist, and orator Margaret Fuller's family is drowned off the coast of New York upon their return from Europe, Henry David Thoreau visits the site of their shipwreck and discovers a revealing personal document of hers.

The Secret Chord

By Geraldine Brooks

In this fascinating and richly detailed fictionalized account of the life and times of King David. We see David as he might

actually have been: a charismatic leader of men, both brutal and conflicted.

The Taming of the Queen

by Philippa Gregory

Reimagines the story of Henry VIII's sixth wife, Kateryn Parr, who after being forced to marry the king struggles against dangerous adversaries to observe her own faith and promote religious reforms.

The Marriage of Opposites: a novel based on the life of Rachel Pizzaro

by Alice Hoffman

Inspired by the life of the woman who would become the mother of Impressionist painter Camille Pissarro, this novel offers a lush, lyrical depiction of 19th-century Jewish life in the Danish West Indies (now the U.S. Virgin Islands)

The Invention of Wings

by Sue Monk Kidd

Traces more than three decades in the lives of a wealthy Charleston debutante who longs to break free from the strictures of her household and pursue a meaningful life; and the urban slave, Handful, who is placed in her charge as a child before finding courage and a sense of self.

Paradise Sky

by Joe Lansdale

On the run after an infamous landowner murders his father, Willie becomes an expert marksman before turning Buffalo Soldier, befriending Wild Bill Hickok and earning the nickname "Deadwood Dick."

Circling the Sun

by Paula McLain

A fascinating portrayal of Beryl Markham, a complex and strong-willed woman who

fought to make her way in the world on her terms. McLain paints a captivating portrait of Africa in the 1920s and the life of expats making their home there.

Sutton

by J.R. Moehringer

A fictionalized account of Willie Sutton, one of the most notorious criminals in American history, traces his life, his doomed romance with his first love, and his surprise pardon on Christmas Eve in 1969.

The Chaperone

by Laura Moriarty

"A novel about the friendship between an adolescent, pre-movie-star Louise Brooks, and the 36-year-old woman who chaperones her to New York City for a summer, in 1922, and how it changes both their lives"--.

The Life and Opinions of Maf the dog and one of his friend Marilyn Monroe

by Andrew O'Hagan

Given as a Christmas present to Marilyn Monroe, Maf the dog provides keen insight into the world of the Hollywood starlet during the last two years of her life.

West of Sunset

by Stewart O'Nan

A tale inspired by F. Scott Fitzgerald's last years in Hollywood finds him reflecting on past events at the height of the Jazz Age while falling in love, struggling to hold his family together and penning The Last Tycoon.